## **Oak Middle School**

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## Nicholas Zecco – Project 351 Ambassador

Project 351 is a youth service organization dedicated to building unity and leadership through the yearlong engagement and enrichment of an 8th grade service Ambassador from every city and town in Massachusetts. Youth are selected by hometown educators for an exemplary ethic of service and the values of kindness, compassion, humility, and gratitude. Created as an event of Governor Patrick's second inaugural and now convened by Governor Baker, Project 351 is a statewide non-profit organization that partners with an extraordinary community of educators, service and non-profit organizations, private sector and civic leaders, families, and volunteers to achieve its mission.

Shrewsbury's Project 351 Shrewsbury Ambassador for the 2015-2016 school year is Nicholas Zecco. Nick has served the school in an outstanding capacity in the following ways:

- Nick introduced himself to the administrators and office staff on the very first day of school in seventh grade and extended an offer to help with anything we might need. At his previous school, he was known as the "mayor."
- Nick is an active member of the Student Voice, a school leadership group for students interested in becoming involved in the school community by representing their team to discuss student-life issues and to plan activities that build school unity, spirit and service. In this capacity, Nick has contributed to the Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive and our Annual Coins of Fury Campaign to support needy families in our community.
- Nick loves to represent our school. He serves as a tour guide for incoming students, and helps to organize other students to act a tour guides as well.
- Nick has volunteered to take care of our school flag. He has been trained by one of our staff members who has served in the armed forces, to take down and properly care for the flag that flies in front of our school daily. He ensures that it is taken down everyday and folded properly. He even trains other students the proper way to do this.
- Nick has served as a tour guide for special guests in our school. Recently, the principals from other schools in the district visit our school. Nick walked these visitors through classrooms, introducing them to the teachers and staff members and explaining details about the classes, schedule, and routines.

Beyond Nick's efforts to serve our school, he exemplifies Oak Middle School's core values of integrity, kindness, effective effort, tolerance and shared responsibility in his daily interactions and participation in the life of our school. Because Nick embodies so many of our core values, we see him as role model for other students. As a Project 351 Ambassador, Nick will have the opportunity to share the energy and passion he has for helping others.